



WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

**DAVE HANSEN**

SENATOR – 30TH DISTRICT

ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

**Testimony: Senate Bill 519**

**Thursday, April 1, 2010**

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members for having this public hearing on Senate Bill 519. I introduced Senate Bill 519 at the suggestion of a constituent, Mr. Zac Chambers, who is here today to also testify on behalf of Senate Bill 519.

Most of us have attended Eagle Scout ceremonies during the course of our time on office. For me it's an honor to be asked to join in these events and celebrate the achievements of these young men.

Eagle Scouts have a long and storied past here in Wisconsin and this legislation is aimed at providing Eagle Scouts with a license plate sticker so they can display they have successfully earned the requisite 21 merit badges. Becoming an Eagle Scout requires dedication, commitment and not every young man entering Boy Scouts will achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. Earning an Eagle Scout badge typically takes 5-7 years to accomplish and only a small fraction, 5%, of Boy Scouts nationwide attain the rank of Eagle Scout.

In recent discussions with staff at the DOT it has come to my attention that due to a drafting error the bill restricts the types of plates the sticker can be applied to. As a result, it has the unintended result of limiting the types of plates the sticker can be applied to and making it a much more complicated and expensive process for the DOT.

DOT also raised concerns with the effective date of the bill and the possible impact it could have on their costs due to changes that would need to be made on existing application forms. As a result, I believe the fiscal impact is higher than it needs to be and I am working on an amendment to address the Department's concerns.

I think we can all agree that the accomplishments of young people like my constituent Zach here are worthy of our recognition and respect and I hope you will support moving SB-519 forward.

Thank you again Mr. Chairman and members for this opportunity and I appreciate your consideration of Senate Bill 519. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

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